

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, NATO

SUBJ: TERRORISM: WORK OF NATO SPECIAL COMMITTEE

REF: A. USNATO 5895 B. USNATO 6387 (NOTAL) C. USNATO 6567 (NOTAL)
D. USNATO 6638 (NOTAL)

1. ON JANUARY 29 NAC IS SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S HALF-YEARLY REVIEW OF SUBVERSIVE AND INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES FOR PERIOD APRIL-OCTOBER 1974 (CM(74)78). THIS REPORT, A SYNTHESIS OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY MEMBERS, INCLUDES A BRIEF LISTING OF "POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM" IN NATO COUNTRIES (TRANSMITTED AT END OF THIS CABLE). IT APPEARS TO MISSION THERE IS LITTLE IF ANY INFORMATION IN THIS SECTION OF REPORT THAT HAS NOT ALREADY APPEARED IN PRESS AND THAT IT PROVIDES NO USEFUL MATERIAL FOR POLITICAL LEVEL CONSIDERATION OF TERRORISM.

2. MISSION BELIEVES WE SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NAC DISCUSSION TO UNDERLINE CONTINUED U.S. INTEREST IN AND SUPPORT FOR MORE EFFECTIVE SPECIAL COMMITTEE EFFORT TO DEAL WITH POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL ASPECTS OF TERRORISM. WE PROPOSE THEREFORE DURING JANUARY 29 NAC:
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(A) TO EMPHASIZETHAT NATO MEMBERS WHO SHARE OUR INTEREST IN THIS EFFORT SHOULD PROVIDE MORE SUBSTANTIAL INPUTS TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TERRORIST THREATS AND COUNTER MEASURES:

(B) TO RECOMMEND GIVING ITEM ON TERRORISM PERMANENT AND PROMINENT PLACE ON SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGENDA. (SPECIAL COMMITTEE RECORD AC/46-R/45 STATES THAT COMMITTEE DECIDED AT NOV 6 MEETING THAT ITEM ON "MODUS OPERANDI OF TERRORIST GROUPS IN NATO" SHOULD NOT REMAIN ON AGENDA, BUT THAT WHEN ANY ACT OF TERRORISM OCCURRED, THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED SHOULD COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE AND ATTACH IT TO NATIONAL "HALF-YEARLY REVIEW" CONTRIBUTION.);

(C) TO ASK QUESTIONS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE AT NAC MEETING DESIGNED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT TERRORISM ISSUES CAN AND SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AT POLITICAL LEVEL AS WELL AS AMONG SECURITY SPECIALISTS. WE HAVE IN MIND SUCH QUESTIONS AS: WHAT HAS THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE DONE IN A PRACTICAL WAY TO INVOLVE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANS OTHER THAN SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE EXPERTS IN EFFORTS AGAINST TERRORISM? HOW DOES THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE BELIEVE EXCHANGE BETWEEN MEMBER NATIONS ON COUNTERMEASURES TO TERRORISM CAN BE IMPROVED?

ACTION REQUESTED: BY JAN 27, GUIDANCE AND SUGGESTIONS ON NAC DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT CM(74)78.

4. AS FOR FOLLOW-UP TO DISCUSSION AT NOVEMBER SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING, DIRECTOR OF NATO OFFICE OF SECURITY (ABIDIAN) HAS PREPARED DRAFT REPORT ON MEASURES FOR COUNTER-CTING TERRORISM. WORKING GROUP WILL CONSIDER THIS REORT IN MARCH AND FULL SPECIAL COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW IT AT APRIL MEETING. ABIDIAN IS RECOMMENDING SPECIAL COMMITTEE SUBMIT REPORT TO COUNCIL. PREPARATION OF REPORT ON JAPANESE RED ARMY FOR CONSIDERATION BY SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN APRIL AWAITS SUBMISSION TO ABIDIAN OF NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS. NO COUNTRY (INCLUDING U.S.) HAS YET SUBMITTED A CONTRIBUTION. COMMENT: BOTH OF THESE REPORTS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE NATO CONSULTATIONS ON TERRORISM. MISSION HOPES WASHINGTON AGENCIES WILL PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

5. FOLLWOING IS SECTION ON "POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM" OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S HALF-YEARLY REVIEW OF SUBVERSIVE AND SECRET

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INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES, CM(74)78.

BEGIN TEXT:

40. NUMEROUS ACTS OF VIOLENCE HAVE BEEN COMMITTED IN SEVERAL NATO NATIONS BY, INTER ALIA, MILITANTS OF THE EXTREME LEFT AND RIGHT-WING, SPANISH, GERMAN AND JAPANESE ANARCHISTS, MEMBERS OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, IRANIAN AND TURKISH REVOLUTIONARY ORGANISATIONS AND CROAT EMIGRE GROUPS.

41. IN BELGIUM A CAR EXPLODED IN FRONT OF THE OFFICE OF THE SPANISH TRAVEL AGENCY "IBERIA" IN BRUSSELS. TWO MORE CARS WHICH CONTAINED EXPLOSIVES WERE DETECTED IN FRONT OF THE IBERIA OFFICES

AT LIEGE AND ANTWERP BEFORE THEY EXPLODED. SEVERAL BOMBS WERE PLACED IN OR NEAR SPANISH TARGETS, SUCH AS THE OFFICES OF THE BANCO ESPAGNOL IN BRUSSELS. FOR SOME OF THESE ACTS THE GARI (INTERNATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY ACTION GROUPS), AN ANTI-FRANCO ANARCHIST ORGANISATION, CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

42. THE GARI WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR A SERIES OF ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN FRANCE, E.G., THE KIDNAPPING OF A SPANISH BANKER IN PARIS AND BOMB ATTACKS AGAINST RAILWAY LINES AND STATIONS IN SEVERAL TOWNS.

43. IN THE FEDERREAL REPUBLIC OF GERMAY, 109 ACTS OF VIOLENCE WERE COMMITTED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1974 (54 BY LEFT-WING EXTREMISTS, 23 BY RIGHT-WING EXTREMISTS, 32 BY POLITICALLY MOTIVATED FOREIGNERS) AS COMPARED WITH 111 ACTS IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1973. AMONG THESE ACTS WERE THE ASSASSINATION OF A FORMER MEMBER OF AN ANARCHIST GROUP, WHO HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH BY A "POPULAR TRIBUNAL", THE ASSASSINATION OF THE LEADER OF THE ANTI-COMMUNIST YUGOSLAV EMIGRE MOVEMENT ZBOR; AND BOMB ATTACKS AND RIOTS IN UNIVERSITH CITIES.

44. IN ITALY, TERRORISM HAS BECOME PARTICULARLY GRAVE BECAUSE OF THE VIOLENCE OF SOME ACTION AND THE CHOICE OF TARGETS. THE WORST CASES WERE THE ATTACKS IN THE PIAZZA DELLA LOGGIA (BRESCIA-28TH MAY) DURING A TRADE UNION GATHERING AND ON THE ROME-MUNICH "ITALICUS" TRAIN (4TH AUGUST). SO FAR IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE. SOME ATTACKS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT AGAINST THE ITT AND AFFILITATED COMPANIES. ATTACKS, ON A MODEST SCALE, HAVE ALSO
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BEEN CARRIED OUT AGAINST SOME FIAT SUBSIDIARIES. A SERIOUS ACT OF ARSON WAS COMMITTED AGANST THE FIRM STANDARD IN THE MILAN AREA. A CARABINIERE NCO HAS BEEN KILLED BY A MEMBER OF THE "RED BRIGADES".

45. AS A RESULT OF THE GENERAL AMNESTY DECLARED ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC, MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND PERSONS WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN TERRORISM HAVE BEEN FREED. BECAUSE OF CURRENT CONDITIONS IN TURKEY IT IS NOT EXPECTED THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS WILL, IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, BAND TOGETHER IN GROUPS. HOWEVER, IT IS CONSIDERED VERY POSSIBLE THAT TERRORIST ACTIVITIES ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS WILL TAKE PLACE.

46. IN NORTHERN IRELAND, IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1974, THERE WERE 2,000 SHOOTING INCIDENTS COMPARED WITH 5,000 IN 1973 AND TWICE THAT NUMBER IN 1972. 521 EXPLOSIVE ATTACKS WERE COMMITTED COMPARED WITH ALMOST 1,000 IN 1973. NEARLY 1,000 WEAPONS HAVE BEEN FOUND TO ADD TO THE TOTAL OF 2,600 RECOVERED IN THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS; OVER 16 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES HAVE BEEN RECOVERED SO FAR THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH 31 TONS IN 1973.

47. THE OFFICIAL AND PROVISIONAL IRA AND THE PRTESTANT

EXTREMIST ORGANISATIONS RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM ABROAD. THE IRA RECEIVE SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS, RECENTLY ON A REDUCED SCALE, FROM THE LARGE IRISH CATHOLIC POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, IN CANADA. FUNDS ARE CHANNELLED PRINCIPALLY THROUGH THE IRISH NORTHERN AID COMMITTEE OSTENSIBLY TO ASSIST DISPLACED CATHOLICS IN NORTHERN IRELAND. SINN FEIN OFFICIALS TRAVEL EXTENSIVELY TO PUBLICISE THE IRA CAUSE IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THEY ALSO VISIT MOST WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. A PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN OFFICE HAS RECENTLY BEEN OPENED IN BRUSSELS AND IT IS BELIEVED THAT ONE IN PARIS IS PLANNED. ALTHOUGH THE IRA HAVE SOUGHT TO ACQUIRE ARMS AND EXPLOIT SOURCES IN WESTERN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST, THE UNITED STATES REMAINS THEIR PRIMARY SOURCE OF SUPPLY. A RECENT OPERATION WAS FRUSTRATED BY THE ARREST, IN CANADA, OF AN AMERICAN AND SIX CANADIANS WHO WERE TRANSPORTING WEAPONS ILLEGALLY FROM CANADA TO THE UNITED STATES. CANADIAN AUTHORITIES ALSO UNCOVERED TWO ARMS CACHES IN TORONTO. THE IRISH PROTESTANT EXTREMISTS TEND TO LOOK TO CANADA FOR THEIR ARMS SUPPLIES. IN MARCH A CONSIGNMENT OF ARMS, SHIPPED FROM CANADA AND DESTINED

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FOR THE LISTER DEFENCE ASSOCIATION WAS SEIZED AT SOUTHAMPTON.

48. THE OFFICIAL IRA ORGANISED IN JULY/AUGUST IN DUBLIN, AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN BELFAST, THE "FESTIVAL OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE", THE OBJECT OF WHICH WAS TO EXPLAIN TO FOREIGNERS THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH THE OFFICIAL SINN FEIN WAS MAKING TO THE FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALISM. ABOUT 150 DELEGATES ATTENDED THE FESTIVAL IN DUBLIN, BUT THERE WERE FEWER IN BELFAST. FEW OF THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED WERE OF ANY STANDING AND NO KNOWN "TERRORISTS" ATTENDED.

49. ON 13TH SEPTEMBER, THREE JAPANESE BELONGING TO THE JAPANESE RED ARMY, ARMED WITH TWO PISTOLS AND THREE FRAGMENTATION GRENADES, ENTERED THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE. THEY TOOK ELEVEN PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE AMBASSADOR, HOSTAGE. AFTER NEGOTIATIONS, THE HOSTAGES WERE SET FREE AND THE TERRORISTS WERE FLOWN TO DAMASCUS WHERE THEY SURRENDERED TO THE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES. IN THE WAKE OF THESE EVENTS AND PATTERNED AFTER IT, A CONVICTED ARAB TERRORIST AND THREE OTHER PRISONERS IN SCHEVENINGEN PRISON TOOK 17 PERSONS HOSTAGE DURING A SERVICE IN THE PRISON CHAPEL ON 26TH OCTOBER. A FEW DAYS LATER, A SPECIAL DUTCH FORCE STORMED THE CHAPEL, APPREHENDED THE FOUR PRISONERS AND RELEASED THE HOSTAGES. THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES.

50. IN THE UNITED STATES, THE BLACK LIBERATION ARMY, THE WEATHER UNDERGROUND - AN ANARCHIST GROUP - AND THE SYMBIONESE LIBERATION ARMY COMMITTED A NUMBER OF ACTS OF VIOLENCE, E.G., ASSASSINATION OF POLICE OFFICERS, BOMB ATTACKS AND BANK ROBBERIES.

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